

REMARKS

Claims 1–9 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1–4 and 7 are amended. Support for the amendments may be found, for example, in original claims 1–4 and 7. Additional support for the amendment to claim 1 may be found in the specification, for example, in Example 1. No new matter is added.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 1–9 would be allowable if the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is overcome. Because the rejection is overcome for the reasons described below, claims 1–9 are in condition for allowance.

35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph Rejections

The Office Action rejects claims 1–9 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In particular, claim 1 is rejected for reciting the claim feature "the reactor" without sufficient antecedent basis. Claim 1, as amended, now recites in part: "A polymerization process comprising: achieving a desired polymerization temperature of *a reaction mixture in a reactor*;..." (emphasis added). It is clear throughout the specification that the polymerization process is performed in a reactor and, thus, that the peroxide is dosed to a reaction mixture in a reactor; see, e.g., Example 1. Therefore, the claimed feature "the reactor" has sufficient antecedent basis in the previously recited "a reactor".

Claim 3 is rejected for reciting the claim features "the polymerization reactor" and "the gas phase" without sufficient antecedent basis. Claim 3, as amended, now recites "the reactor", which has antecedent basis in the claim feature "a reactor" of claim 1. Claim 3 also recites "any gas phase", thus removing the need for antecedent basis.

Claims 2 and 4 are rejected for reciting a broad range or limitation together with a narrow range or limitation that falls within the broad range or limitation in the same claim.

Claims 2 and 4 are amended to remove the narrower ranges.

Claim 7 is rejected for reciting the claim feature "the temperature sensing means" without sufficient antecedent basis. Claim 7, as amended, now recites "temperature sensing means", thus removing the need for antecedent basis.

For the reasons discussed above, the amendments to claims 1–4 and 7 overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and thus are in condition for allowance.

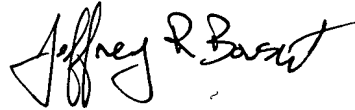
Claims 5 and 8–9 depend from claim 1, and thus are also in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1–9 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: August 31, 2006

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